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SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 1908.

### A Question of Naval Education.

Another provision of the Hale bill to  
promote the efficiency of the navy per-  
sonnel that is bound to attract attention,  
if it does not evoke surprise, is that for  
the limitation of the annual output of  
new naval officers to seventy-five. A few  
years ago the cry was that the navy was  
undermanned, both as to officers and  
men. Indeed, so well informed a news-  
paper as the New York Herald declares  
that the number of officers is insufficient  
to-day. At all events, millions have been  
expended on the Naval Academy, and a  
plant has been established at Annapolis  
of which the country may be proud. It  
appears, however, according to Senator  
Hale, that the output of this plant is  
about to far outrun the demand. Ap-  
pointments of midshipmen have been  
doubled and quadrupled, until there are  
now in the Naval Academy and at sea,  
1,164 midshipmen, or 200 more than the  
entire number of line officers in the navy.  
Now the effect of turning out this swarm  
of junior officers will be to swell the  
lower grades and to produce a "hump"  
that will retard promotion.

What is Senator Hale's remedy for this  
threatened overproduction of naval offi-  
cers? It is to promote seventy-five of the  
ablest and brightest of the graduates an-  
nually to the grade of ensign and to give  
to all the others a year's sea pay and a  
certificate that they had graduated with  
honor and to return them to civil life.  
There is precedent for this course in a  
former enactment of Congress, which Mr.  
Hale says "worked admirably." No hard-  
ship, we are assured, is imposed on the  
graduates, for they are sent back into  
civil life "fully equipped with a very fine  
education." Mr. Hale tells a very pretty  
tale about a young man from his own  
State who feels very grateful to the Sen-  
ator for having had the opportunity to  
obtain a first-class education, of which he  
made good use in earning a living.

Whatever may be the naval view of  
educating more officers than are neces-  
sary, at public expense, we think the lay  
opinion of it will be about that expressed  
by Senator Gallinger, who suggested that  
it was not good policy to expend millions  
at Annapolis to educate young men for  
the pursuits of private life. He hoped  
that legislation would be enacted that  
would "confine the appropriation of pub-  
lic money for the navy to the needs of  
the navy, and not to give young men a  
liberal education at the expense of the  
government, and then send them out into  
private life." Mr. Gallinger, perhaps,  
overlooked one important consequence of  
the policy he proposed—it would deprive  
Senators and Members of a valuable bit  
of patronage. Senator Hale regarded it  
as one of the merits of his bill that it  
provided a means of stopping the over-  
production of officers "without taking  
away the number of appointments." Bet-  
ter, in other words, to give a number of  
young men free education at public ex-  
pense than to cut down the quota of  
Congressional nominations to the Acad-  
emy.

We appreciate fully the force of this  
argument, but perhaps there are two  
sides to it, as well as to several other  
controversial naval questions that we  
hope will be well thrashed out and sen-  
sibly settled, if that be possible, before  
the end of the present session.  
"Ohio Republicans will get together,"  
says the Cleveland Leader. With some-  
thing of a bang, too.

### Restoring the Motto.

Various Congressmen appear to be ex-  
ceedingly anxious that the simplified spell-  
ing of the motto should be restored to  
its original form. It is a curious thing  
that the motto should be so much dis-  
torted. The session is young, and already  
some half dozen patriots have  
thrown down the gauntlet to the powers  
that be, and given notice that the motto  
shall be put back, to stay put.

One thing we do admire about Con-  
gress is its enthusiasm in matters of this  
kind. It comes down like a load of  
bricks when it does come down in affairs  
of such weight and moment, and it  
spreads itself all over the Record doing  
it. About this time last year simplified  
spelling was engaging the attention of  
Congress; it put its foot down on that  
with a bang that rattled the cut-glass  
on the White House sideboard. It vio-  
lently abolished the simplified spelling  
peril, together and singular, with all the  
rights, members, and appurtenances  
thereunto belonging or in anywise apper-  
taining.

The fight for the restoration of the  
motto is cakes and ale to our statesmen.  
It is, indeed, just the thing Congress  
needs in its business right now, and has  
been looking for. Sometimes we are al-  
most prone to think Mr. Roosevelt de-  
liberately precipitated this crisis, as well  
as the simplified spelling crisis, with the  
as the simplified spelling crisis, with the  
idea that Congress should have something  
with which to amuse itself, and which  
might be guaranteed to keep its syn-  
dicated dome of thought working in ap-  
propriate order. He is diplomatic, with all  
of his impulsiveness, is Mr. Roosevelt. He  
knows there are more ways of killing an  
annoying canine than choking him to  
death on oleomargarine. No motto; big  
row out on Capitol Hill; skyrockets, Star-  
Spangled Banner, hot air, wild applause,  
and all that. It's a smart scheme, if it  
really is a scheme—and it may be.

In the meantime—this being a Presi-  
dential year, "Congress doesn't bother  
and pester the administration about  
things it doesn't want to be bothered and  
pestered about. If our representatives  
can keep the motto squabble going long  
enough to give headquarters something  
to take its place when it has been thrashed  
to a frazzle, it will be provided. The

busier Congress can keep itself doing  
nothing, the better it will suit all parties  
concerned. Stand pat and let well enough  
alone—until after the election, anyhow—  
in everything but the motto issue, or  
something equally as vital. After the  
election—oh, well, then something will be  
scratched up to amuse Congress some  
more.

A prophet informs us that the millennium  
will begin in May next. This talk of an  
early adjournment of Congress evidently  
has gone to one man's head, anyhow.

### Women and Smoking.

Most of our New York contemporaries  
have been devoting much of their valu-  
able space recently to discussions of the  
question of whether or not women shall  
be allowed to smoke in restaurants and  
other public places. The foremost states-  
men of the city have interested them-  
selves in the subject, too, and one of  
them, Alderman "Little Tim" Sullivan,  
has introduced a resolution in the  
aldermen providing for the fining or  
imprisonment of restaurateurs who per-  
mit their female patrons to use the weed.  
In short, the big village on Manhattan  
Island is "all het up," as they say in  
Kansas.

To us the whole thing seems very sim-  
ple. The keepers of hotels and cafes  
should be permitted to regulate the mat-  
ter themselves. It is they who say if  
masculinity shall smoke in their dining-  
rooms. Why discriminate against the  
women? If the dear creatures desire to  
descend to the level of mere man in this  
respect, why not gratify their wishes?  
Leaving aside the somewhat troublesome  
question of the constitutionality of Mr.  
Sullivan's proposed ordinance, why should  
the law deny them a privilege which is  
freely accorded to the men?

Of course, women who secure this equal  
privilege must expect to pay rather dearly  
for it—that is, rather dearly according to  
old-fashioned ideas. They must expect to  
lose the respect of men who like to  
think of a woman as something more  
than mortal and little less than angelic,  
and of those good, sweet women of  
kind that make motherhood a name and  
for a woman to smoke a cigarette is  
to be "They must expect to be regarded as  
coarse and vulgar—even though "smart"—  
by a considerable number of very good  
people, and they need not be surprised if  
they discover that they are looked on as  
positively immoral by the more puritan-  
ical element.

On the other hand, they will have the  
satisfaction of knowing that they are  
playing the game as it is played in En-  
gland and on the Continent, don't you  
know, and that they are attracting the  
attention of the mob, and, probably, at  
first, getting their names in the papers.  
No great amount of harm will be done  
to the woman directly concerned, for,  
of course, their desire to smoke in public  
demonstrates that they already smoke  
in private. Furthermore, it is no worse  
for a woman to smoke a cigarette in  
public—or a cigar or pipe, as she prefers—  
than it is for her to drink a cocktail or  
a highball. The point is, in our opinion,  
that even the latter habit is vicious and  
bad in any number of ways.

Eventually, no doubt, women will be  
permitted to smoke in all but the most  
conservative New York restaurants, and  
thus a social condition which already  
causes the optimistic lover of his country  
to blush for shame will be aggravated.  
That the innovation will be received com-  
placently by a large proportion of the  
metropolitan people is indicated by an ex-  
tract from an editorial in one of the  
staidest and most conservative and high-  
ly respected morning papers there. "To  
say," remarks this journal, "that such a  
law (as that proposed by Alderman Sul-  
livan) would be unavailing and ridiculous  
in this practical community is only to say  
that the exiguous Mr. Sullivan is morally  
superior to his time and his environ-  
ment, and then send them out into  
private life." Mr. Gallinger, perhaps,  
overlooked one important consequence of  
the policy he proposed—it would deprive  
Senators and Members of a valuable bit  
of patronage. Senator Hale regarded it  
as one of the merits of his bill that it  
provided a means of stopping the over-  
production of officers "without taking  
away the number of appointments." Bet-  
ter, in other words, to give a number of  
young men free education at public ex-  
pense than to cut down the quota of  
Congressional nominations to the Acad-  
emy.

### A Dissolving Army.

Lieut. Col. E. F. Glenn, Twenty-  
third Infantry, who has hitherto dis-  
tinguished himself by varied activity, has  
now engaged the War Department's at-  
tention, if not solicitude, by some offhand  
criticisms of the army situation, in an  
address delivered Monday afternoon be-  
fore the members of the New York City  
Chapter of the Daughters of the American  
Revolution. He described the trouble  
of 1898 as an "opera bouffe war," and al-  
luded to people of Cuban or Spanish  
blood as incapable of respecting personal  
liberty or the property rights of others.  
He advised the seizure of Cuba, or, at  
least, our retention of control in the  
Island. He exposed the lack of national  
defense, especially on the Pacific Coast,  
and made some familiar references to the  
activity and prominence of Japan in the  
Pacific. He ripped up the system of mili-  
tary rule which makes it necessary for a  
regiment to spend so much time in the  
Philippines, and with not enough time  
at home to recuperate from the disasters  
of service in the tropics. One of the prin-  
cipal recommendations made by Lieut.  
Col. Glenn was that the infantry force,  
the arm of the military establishment to  
which he belongs, "should be doubled."  
It is interesting to note in connection  
with Lieut. Col. Glenn's remarks that the  
Twenty-third Infantry, of which he is the  
lieutenant colonel, goes to the Philippines  
next month with a paucity of officers in  
its commissioned personnel. Lieut. Col.  
Glenn himself was ordered back to the  
regiment, when he expected to have re-  
mained on recruiting duty. Two of the  
three majors are not with the command,  
and nine of the captains in command of  
companies are on detached duty. Five of  
the first lieutenants and two of the sec-  
ond lieutenants are similarly situated.  
Of one company, the captain, first lieu-  
tenant, and second lieutenant will not ac-  
company the regiment. This makes a gen-  
eral shuffling up of officers in order to ob-  
tain enough to exercise command of com-  
panies, added to which is the interesting  
fact that the regiment is destined to go to  
the Samar district, in the Philippines, where  
there is bound to be more or less inept  
disturbance, calling for a full regim-  
ent, with its maximum complement of  
officers. It has been impossible to provide  
this regiment with the officers it needs,  
owing to the large number of army offi-  
cers who are on detached service. The  
arm of the military establishment to which  
he belongs, "should be doubled." The  
annual report of the Secretary of War  
shows that no less than 632 officers, of  
all arms, are engaged in work which  
compels them to be absent from their  
line commands. The situation has led  
Mr. Taft to indorse the recommendation  
of the Chief of Staff of the Army that  
there shall be legislation this year pro-

viding for an addition of 632 officers to the  
number already authorized for the army.  
Whether or not Lieut. Col. Glenn's re-  
marks are agreeable to the military au-  
thorities—and it is imaginable that the  
officer comes within the necessity of of-  
ficial admonition for his locusty—it re-  
mains a fact that the army needs com-  
missioned officers quite as much as it  
needs enlisted men. Young men who are  
doing well in civil life see nothing to at-  
tract them in the army, and the soldier  
who is seduced and enlisted is very  
glad to get out, and stay out, with the  
result that there are fewer and fewer  
old, trained soldiers, and an alarming de-  
crease in the number of re-enlistments.  
Lieut. Col. Glenn may have overstepped  
the bounds of discretion, but he has only  
publicly expressed a sentiment which is  
entertained by his associates in the mili-  
tary establishment, that something should  
speedily be done for the protection of the  
army.

"Tariff revision is the dream of Gov.  
John A. Johnson of Minnesota, and the  
nightmare of Speaker Joe Cannon, of Illi-  
nois," says the Atlanta Georgian. Just a  
dream, any way you look at it, eh?

### The Visions of Our Jurists.

Well, if any of it happens, we can't say  
that we haven't been abundantly fore-  
warned. Justice Harlan feels sure that  
some day we shall be engaged in an  
armed conflict with the Orient that will  
shake the earth. His prophetic soul de-  
scribes in peace-loving China an army of  
5,000,000 soldiers, against whom he would  
array an American fleet worth \$50,000,000.  
An extraordinary combat, surely, but  
anything may occur in the future. Of  
course, we shall lack 'em, whether with  
armor-clads, ships, or tom-toms, or  
better yet, to follow the learned justice's  
idea more closely, keep them in such  
deadly peril of our prowess that they will  
never dare raise a finger against us.  
Robust and militant Americanism that is,  
if a bit jingoish! Fearless, anyway!

But if the yellow danger looms large  
upon the mental horizon of one dis-  
tinguished jurist, what shall we say of  
the domestic terrors that appall last  
year's president of the American Bar As-  
sociation? "A great, unknown, unde-  
fined dread" has taken possession of the  
usually calm and unperturbed Alton B.  
Parker. His limbs tremble and his voice  
quivers as he contemplates the wreck of  
industry, the profound uncertainty as to  
the stability of property, the prospect  
that the proceeds of years of toil will be  
snatched from the impoverished investor.  
A myriad phobias afflict him. He fears  
mob rule. He fears riots. He fears revo-  
lutionary methods. He fears new politi-  
cal ideas. Uncertainty and dread reign  
in his home of thought—an unhappy and  
abnormal psychosis.

Turn we to pleasant things. Back for  
a moment in the pervasive and infectious  
smile of the judicious Taft, as the Great  
Temple levitates him to the top of a  
high mountain, and points out to him a  
Presidency in his grasp—60 delegates al-  
ready assured—if he will but follow Me!  
What an iridescent dream!

Solomon expressed an opinion that there  
was nothing new under the sun, but an  
Alabama newspaper points out to him a  
Presidency in his grasp—60 delegates al-  
ready assured—if he will but follow Me!  
What an iridescent dream!

The inhabitants of this great country  
appear perfectly willing to take Mr.  
George Ade's proposed political debut  
quite as seriously as Mr. Eddie Foy's as-  
pirations to play Hamlet.

Because of its rather parched surround-  
ing territory, Chattanooga, Ga., has been  
dubbed "Boozanoga," but Chattanooga  
isn't at all sure the name will stick for  
any considerable length of time.

One of the jurors in the Thaw case  
swears he never before heard of the de-  
fendant. We believe public opinion would  
have sustained the judge if he had im-  
mediately ordered this man back to the  
farm and his happy estate.

Small boys to whom Santa Claus  
brought sleds Christmas wouldn't do a  
single thing to the weather man if they  
should meet him on a back street some-  
where.

One ton of coal will give off 65,000 cubic  
feet of gas, so an expert says. That,  
however, is small compared with the out-  
put of one light-weight Congressman.

Senator Tillman says Mr. Hobson is  
"lurid," but Mr. Hobson doesn't appear  
to see many more Japanese spokes than  
Mr. Justice Harlan sees.

"Had Mr. Roosevelt lived in Canning's  
day, the record might have shown four  
tailors of Tooley street, instead of only  
the three who have come down to fame  
as 'We, the people.'"—The Washington  
Post. The Providence Journal says the  
Providence Journal. This is a mis-  
take; the record would more likely have  
shown only one.

A practical joker crawled under his  
house in rural Pennsylvania and viewed  
like a wildcat. He has been busy pick-  
ing birdshot from out his anatomy ever  
since, and is firmly resolved not to rock  
any boats next summer.

"Although the Vice President does not  
sympathize with many of the doctrines  
advocated by the President, he has not  
said a word to indicate this," says the  
Brooklyn Eagle, speaking through the  
mouth of its Washington correspondent.  
We have long suspected that some of our  
Washington correspondents are mind-  
readers.

If the doctors are to command our  
ships, why not let the magazine writers  
let's reform.

Those Kentucky night riders have crude  
notions concerning the fit and proper way  
in which to convert tobacco into smoke.

A Paris judge has decided that there  
is no law compelling a man to tip a  
waiter. "Unwritten laws" are not as  
fashionable in France as they are in this  
land, if that decision is sound.

"The mantle of Moses has fallen on  
Hoke Smith," says an admiring contem-  
porary. You don't say! It must have  
given him an awful jolt!

A Mexican banker of the wrong stripe  
has succeeded in getting away with \$70,000  
of his depositors' money. As Mexico pro-  
gresses, however, it may expect these  
more or less unpleasant things to happen.

Mr. James Hamilton Lewis says "all  
men are liars," but it isn't probable  
the women go wild over his taste in  
whiskers.

An English surgeon thinks the stomach  
of a normal animal may be transferred  
to a human being, but the surgeon, how-  
ever, would never be satisfied with any-  
thing less than an ostrich's.

The sheriff in a certain Georgia county  
hates a pack of whisky on his hands by  
right of levy, but the county has enjoined  
him from selling it. This must seem just  
like getting money from home to the  
sheriff.

Mr. Ernest Seton-Thompson ventures  
the assertion that mosquitoes never bite  
frogs. Doubtless the gentleman thinks  
a statement of that kind may sneak  
through unchallenged, under the pressure  
of other strenuous affairs just now.

### A SUNDAY TALK.

Judge not, and ye shall not be judged; condemn  
not, and ye shall not be condemned; forgive, and  
ye shall be forgiven.—St. Luke, vi. 37.

It was while Jesus Christ was in Galilee  
that the Pharisees, doubting Him, gath-  
ered about and watched Him to see what  
His conduct as to healing and adminis-  
tering help to those about Him would be  
on the Sabbath day. It was His knowl-  
edge, and the knowledge of the Pharisees  
of Him to preach to His disciples one of the  
most effective of those sermons whose  
tenets have been an integral part of the  
Christian religion for two thousand years,  
and which, being followed so far as hu-  
man fallibility and weakness would allow  
them to be, have sweetened life and en-  
larged the hope of man.

To follow the precepts of the text print-  
ed above is to follow the road to the  
only sure and certain happiness that is  
allowed to man—the happiness that comes  
from clean living, right thinking, high  
aspirations. As Charlotte Bronte wrote:  
"The Great Being unseen, but all present, who, in  
His beneficence, desires only our welfare, watches  
the struggle between good and evil in our hearts,  
and waits to see whether we obey His voice, heard  
in the whispers of conscience, or lead an ear to the  
spirit of evil, which seeks to lead us astray. Rough  
and steep is the path indicated by divine sugges-  
tion, and leading to the green vale of peace, where  
temptation strews flowers. Then conscience  
whispers: Do what you feel is right, obey me, and  
I will place for you firm footing."

It is doubtful whether any of us quite  
realize the force and subtlety of the  
temptations that come to ourselves—all  
is so insidious. How then is it possible  
for us to realize, even dimly, the force of  
the temptations that assail our neighbor  
and to which, perhaps, too often he suc-  
cumbs? Evil is rampant in the world; it  
is all about us, on every hand, and in  
all of our thoughts, and faith and  
struggling to keep from being swept into  
the maelstrom of sin.

If this is true about ourselves, how  
necessary it is then that we should keep  
the words of the text firmly in our minds.  
"Judge not, that ye be not judged; if ye  
condemn, ye shall be condemned; if ye  
forgive, ye shall be forgiven." It is  
quite impossible to weigh the actions, the  
impulses, the strength, the temptations of  
our fellow-man; how then can we judge  
the results? If we sin, be sure we  
shall pay the price of our transgression,  
for God is not mocked; if our  
brother sins and seems to prosper, be as-  
sured that he too has the price to pay,  
and instead of judging and condemning  
him, remember, first, that he is deserving  
all that.

I do not think that the mere act of liv-  
ing rightly is easy, or, indeed, natural;  
for as Amiel says:  
"To do right is in one sense an act of violence;  
it is suffering, expiation, a cross, for it means the  
control and subjugation of self. In another sense  
it is an apprenticeship to heavenly things, sweet  
and secret joy, contentment and peace."

And so, because we are sinners all, it  
is but natural that we should be very tender  
and merciful toward other sinners. As we pray  
God to be forgiven, so must we be ready  
to forgive. The doctrine enunciated in  
the text above is precisely that which  
Jesus afterward incorporated into the  
prayer that bears His name: "Forgive us  
our trespasses, as we forgive those who  
trespass against us."

All through His life He gave His dis-  
ciples and others a practical demon-  
stration of the working of this text which  
I have quoted, and practiced. He judged  
none; condemned none; forgave many.  
Pardon, not wrath, is God's best attribute.  
And so our prayer should ever be for  
a heart and will to be very tender and  
merciful toward other sinners. Above all  
we need to learn to be able to pray with  
Pope:

Teach me to feel another's we,  
To choose well the words I use,  
That mercy I to others show,  
That mercy show to me.

### DOWN WITH SQUASH PIE!

Mr. Bryan's Paper Joins The Wash-  
ington Herald in a Great Crusade.  
From the Commonwealth.

The Washington Herald is deserving of  
all commendation for its exposure of the  
contemptible "nature faker" who pains  
out upon an unsuspecting people as gen-  
uine pumpkin pie the abomination con-  
sisting of crust and squash filling. None  
of us is injured by the romances written  
about our animal friends, but when it  
comes to imposing upon our interior  
mechanism and loading our digestive  
apparatus with false pretenses, we de-  
mand a halt in the name of good health  
as well as good morals. For this reason  
the Commonwealth desires to enlist along-  
side the esteemed Washington Herald in  
a crusade against the imitation pumpkin  
pie. The Hubbard squash is all right  
when appearing in its proper role. Cut  
into pieces of the proper size and baked  
in the oven, and properly seasoned with  
salt, pepper, and real butter, it is really  
a fine dish. But when it falls into the  
hands of the culinary "nature faker" and  
comes to us disguised as a pumpkin pie,  
we rebel. The Washington Herald may  
draw on the Commonwealth for all the edi-  
torial assistance we have in stock for use  
in its reasonable campaign against the  
squash imitation and imposition.

### Choose Well the Vice President.

From the Nashville Tennessean.  
Gov. Johnson of Tennessee, makes a  
strong plea for a well-balanced national  
ticket, and it is, indeed, a good suggestion.  
The second name on the ticket  
should be, as nearly as possible, that of  
the second man in the party. It is a  
wide field, and the party may well hesi-  
tate among so many able and worthy  
men, but we may reasonably hope to see  
no petty, insignificant considerations pre-  
vail in naming the Democratic candidate  
for Vice President this year. No geo-  
graphical snobism, no last-but-one-  
make-shift, but a consideration of the  
ticket to make the race against the  
storm and the fierce competition of this  
year of 1908.

### Tariff Will Not Down.

From the Providence Journal.  
The tariff may not be the leading issue  
in the coming campaign, but it is an issue  
which cannot be neglected indefinitely.  
The standpatters may refuse to heed  
public opinion; they may forbid tariff  
legislation for the benefit of the Philip-  
pines, but sooner or later the sword is  
certain to drop.

### Again the Cocktail Joke.

From the Boston Herald.  
"What has impressed you as the most  
typical of our American institutions?"  
asked Vice President Fairbanks of the  
Duff-Gordon at Senator Dewey's dinner  
party.  
"Oh, cocktails," remarked her ladyship,  
dryly and innocently.

### Approaching from Wrong End.

From the New York Sun.  
It has not yet been shown that railway  
rates are oppressive, but that the profits  
of railways are unreasonable. Reduction  
of rates and of profits does not seem to  
be the proper direction from which to  
approach the problem of increased facili-  
ties.

### Joke Not Visible.

From the Baltimore American.  
Mark Twain is said to have over fifty  
thousand dollars tied up in a trust com-  
pany as a result of the late stringency,  
and it is doubtful if even the leading  
humorist of the country can see the joke  
in the situation.

### Solid with the Officeholders.

From the New York World.  
President Roosevelt says that Secretary  
Taft will win the Republican nomination  
in the first ballot. Would it not be safer  
to say that he is sure of the Federal  
brigade?

### CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Representative Charles Edgar Little-  
field, of Maine, is one of the tallest mem-  
bers in the House of Representatives.  
When standing in a group of the nation's  
lawmakers he towers above the rest.  
Only two other members can size  
up with him, Representative Sul-  
livan and James. With his iron gray  
hair and heavy set eyebrows, he pre-  
sents a striking figure.

Mr. Littlefield was born in Leb-  
anon, York County, Me., and comes  
from the district formerly rep-  
resented by Nelson Dingley, of Dingley  
tariff fame. He did not have the advantages  
of a university education. After go-  
ing through the schools of his town he  
studied law, and was admitted to practice  
in 1875. He served in the Maine legisla-  
ture and was chosen speaker in 1887.  
His first Congress was the Fifty-sixth,  
and he has been returned regularly ever  
since, though the last time by a much  
reduced majority.

Representative Littlefield is a champion  
of prohibition, and the "wet" voters tried  
hard to defeat him. He won out by a  
smaller but safe plurality. He is a fre-  
quent visitor to the Senate, and any day  
when the House is dragging he can be  
found sitting on one of the couches ob-  
serving the doings of the wise men. He  
was asked the reason for his frequent  
visits. With that broad smile of his and  
a twinkle of the eye, he responded:  
"Who knows? Maybe some day I will  
be here as a Senator, though the Senate  
carpet may have to set my chair  
farther away from the desk to accommo-  
date my size."

With that he stretched out his "long  
hauls."  
An inquisitive member of the fair sex  
was taken down to see how the House  
does things by one of the Representatives  
the other day, and she was introduced to  
a large number of Congressmen. She did  
not pay much attention to names, for she  
was too busy acquiring knowledge.

Finally she had a short, slender, deep-  
voiced man presented to her, and she  
caught the title "Congressman."  
"Oh," she said, "and were you here  
when the Williams De Armond scrap was  
pulled off the other day?"  
"Perhaps," suggested the Congressman,  
with dignity, "you did not catch my name."

"Your name? Why, I don't believe I  
did," she replied, with engaging frank-  
ness.  
"My name," continued the Congress-  
man, "is De Armond."

That "Uncle Joe" Cannon is naturally  
left-handed is a fact not generally known,  
for his ambidexterity is so clever that  
few who watch him in public have a  
chance to notice it, unless they watch  
particularly his use of the gavel. In-  
variably, the Speaker takes that instru-  
ment in his left hand and he inflicts  
blows on an unsuspecting marble-top table  
that sound as though he was turning out  
carpentry work. Observation leads the  
watcher to the discovery that Mr. Can-  
non uses his left hand in every instance  
for any purpose of strength, and, in fact,  
for all purposes, except writing. His left-  
handedness comes so naturally that one  
would be led to the belief that when it  
comes to chirography the same member  
would do the work, but a long schooling,  
probably during a boyhood that is back  
in the dim, misty past, has taught the  
right hand how to write, and it does  
write when the time comes. Further, it  
may be noticed that, when there is occa-  
sion for the Speaker to lift something  
heavy, or to do anything that requires  
any muscular effort, it is the left hand  
that does the work, and the right hand  
knows nothing about it. When a gentle-  
man of the floor of the House is in order  
it is the left hand that instinctively  
grasps the mallet that has knocked in  
the head several hundred thousand reams  
of would-be legislation, and the left hand  
is able to knock holes in the marble in  
such a natural way that any one who  
watches the performance knows that the  
left hand is the one of instinct with the  
Speaker.

Of the eighty-nine Senators sworn in  
and serving, twenty-two, or nearly one-  
fourth, have officiated as governors of  
their States. Ten of the twenty-two are  
Republicans and twelve Democrats. The  
Senatorial delegations from Arkansas,  
Louisiana, Tennessee, and Vermont have  
been the chief executives of their respec-  
tive States. Twelve are from the Southern  
States, and comprise nearly one-half of  
the Senate's representation in the Senate.  
Four are from the East, four from the  
Middle West, and two from the Western  
States.

Clean Away the Cobwebs.  
From the Chicago Record-Herald.  
It is of the greatest public importance  
that railroads be made liable for accidents  
to their employees due to any negligence  
or error of any of their officers, employes,  
or agents, or due to defects of equipment.  
The best way to establish such responsi-  
bility is through a Federal law, for in this  
way alone can the responsibility be made  
uniform, as it should be. If Congress  
cannot accomplish all that is necessary  
by enacting a new law this winter, it is  
to be hoped that in the course of time  
more progressive spirit will enable the  
Supreme Court to clean away some of  
the cobwebs in which the confused argu-  
ments of the majority members were en-  
tangled in the recent decision, and that  
then a more consistent interpretation of  
the scope of the interstate commerce  
clause will be possible.

### Wherein the Panics Differ.

As distinguished, in particular, from  
the great panic of 1893, there are at least  
three factors of fundamental importance  
which distinguish the present situation  
from that of fourteen years ago. The  
first is that there is absolutely no doubt  
or distrust as to the money standard of  
the country; the second that there is a  
great surplus in the Treasury, and the  
third that the agricultural population of  
the country, instead of being, as it was  
then, in distress and debt and groaning  
over the low price of products, is in a  
state of extraordinary prosperity, is out  
of debt, and has for years been getting  
splendid returns for its industry.

### Not Cheap in Price, Anyway.

From the Baltimore Leader.  
The Earl of Yarmouth is the latest  
horrible example, but the demand for  
foreign titles still continues brisk, with  
rising prices.

### A LITTLE NONSENSE.

**THE YOUNG YEAR.**  
The happy New Year comes along,  
So young and full of hope and  
Or caring care.  
We sent away its nearest kith  
In deep disgrace,  
And now we start the youngster with  
A murder case.  
Oh, New